

~~A4~~ a plurality of file objects, each containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said list.

~~A5~~ 8. (Amended) A file structure for storing a hierarchically structured content object having a plurality of content entities, comprising:
a first file object containing an outline of containers and content entity identifiers defining the content and hierarchical structure of the content object; and
a plurality of file objects, each containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said list.

~~A6~~ 16. (Amended) A method for providing a file structure for storing a content object having a plurality of content entities, comprising the steps of:
creating a file object containing a list of content entity identifiers defining the content of the content object; and
creating a plurality of file objects, each containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said list.

~~A7~~ 23. (Amended) A method for storing a hierarchically structured content object having a plurality of content entities, comprising the steps of:
creating a first file object containing an outline of containers and content entity identifiers defining the content and hierarchical structure of the content object; and
creating a plurality of file objects, each containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said list.

AS/ 31. (Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for providing a file structure for storing a content object having a plurality of content entities, comprising:

program instructions for creating a file object containing a list of content entity identifiers defining the content of the content object; and

program instructions for creating a plurality of file objects, each containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said list.

AG 38. (Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for storing a hierarchically structured content object having a plurality of content entities, comprising:

program instructions for creating a first file object containing an outline of containers and content entity identifiers defining the content and hierarchical structure of the content object; and

program instructions for creating a plurality of file objects, each containing a content entity identified by one of the content entity identifiers contained in said list.

Add new claims 46 – 51, as follows.

AD -46. (New) The file structure of claim 1, wherein the content entity identifiers identify the content entities without specifying locations of the content entities.

47. (New) The file structure of claim 8, wherein the content entity identifiers identify the content entities without specifying locations of the content entities.

48. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the content entity identifiers identify the content entities without specifying locations of the content entities.

49. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the content entity identifiers identify the content entities without specifying locations of the content entities.

50. (New) The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the content entity identifiers identify the content entities without specifying locations of the content entities.

51. (New) The program storage device of claim 38, wherein the content entity identifiers identify the content entities without specifying locations of the content entities.--

REMARKS

New dependent claims 46-51 are added, hence, claims 1 - 51 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1, 8, 16, 23, 31, and 38 are amended merely to recite the invention more clearly. It is respectfully submitted that those claims are not amended in a manner that narrows the scope of the claims nor are they amended for reasons related to patentability. Further, it is respectfully submitted that the claims would be allowable even without the amendments.

Claims 1-45 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over DeRose et al. ("DeRose"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1, for example, is directed to a file structure for storing a content object having a plurality of content entities. It includes a file object containing a list of content entity identifiers defining the content of the content object. It also includes a plurality of file objects, each